



KYLE PITSOR

Vice President, Government Relations

February 7, 2013

Public Safety and Security Committee
Room 3600, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Proposed Bill 5749

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) appreciates the opportunity to express its views in opposition to Proposed Bill 5749. NEMA has long maintained the policy promoting the direct adoption of the latest edition of the National Electrical Code®. The Association also supports the position that all building, fire, and energy codes should be adopted in full every three years. NEMA believes that Proposed Bill 5749 will have significant negative impacts on the life safety of Connecticut citizens and will increase the cost of doing business in the State.

NEMA is the trade association of choice for the electrical equipment and medical imaging manufacturing industry. Founded in 1926 and headquartered near Washington, D.C., its approximately 400 member companies manufacture products used in the generation, transmission and distribution, control, and end-use of electricity. These products are used in utility, medical imaging, industrial, commercial, institutional, and residential applications. Domestic production of electrical products sold worldwide exceeds \$120 billion.

Connecticut is one of many states that values public safety and the protection of its environment by adopting building, fire, electrical, and energy codes and standards, which provides the safest and economically prudent climate for its citizens. Proposed Bill 5749 will prevent this integral update from taking place, allowing Connecticut to continue fall behind the standard set by other states for building and life safety, and limit the use of safe and cost-effective construction standards or methods, new and emerging technology and building innovations, and cutting-edge building materials.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO), the national organization that rates communities for fire and disaster exposure, rates each jurisdiction based upon their updated building codes. Higher ISO ratings will result in higher insurance bills for Connecticut property owners.

Passage of Proposed Bill 5749 will adversely impact integration of new technologies vital to personal safety, such as arc fault circuit interrupters and tamper resistant receptacles.

NEMA respectfully requests the members of the Public Safety and Security Committee to carefully consider the negative impacts of Proposed Bill 5749 on the States' ability to attract new business, provide affordable, safe, and energy efficient housing, and ensure the public safety of its communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Pitsor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kyle Pitsor
Vice President, Government Relations